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We may use matrices to represent and efficiently solve systems of equations by putting both the coefficients of the system and the values of the equations in a matrix and mimicking our usual procedure for solving them.

**Example 4.** *Translate into matrix notation and solve the system*

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Matrix notation has uses well beyond solving systems.

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Some manipulations of matrices are not just translations from those on numbers.

**Definition 7.** *The transpose of an  $n$  by  $m$  matrix  $M$  is the  $m$  by  $n$  matrix called  $M^T$  whose  $i, j$ th entry is the  $j, i$ th entry of  $M$ .*

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**Example 8.** *The transpose of  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$  is  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 4 \\ 2 & 5 \\ 3 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$ .*

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**Definition 10.** *The dot product of a row vector*  
 $[a_1 \ a_2 \ \cdots \ a_n]$  *and a column vector*  
 $\begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ \vdots \\ b_n \end{bmatrix}$  *is the sum*  
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